

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06

SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 OIC-04 PA-04 PRS-01

ACDA-19 DRC-01 /196 W
----- 083460

O R 011640Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5428

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 0288

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EI

SUBJECT: ENERGY: FOLLOW-UP TO FIRST MEETING OF ECG

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REF: A. STATE 37858 AND B. STATE 39930

1. EMBOFFS MET FEB. 28 WITH IRISH FONOFF ECONOMIC DIVISION COUNSELLOR MICHAEL GREENE, WHO ATTENDED FEBRUARY 25 ENERGY COORDINATION GROUP MEETING, AND ECONOMIC DIVISION ASSISTANT SECRETARY EAMON GALLAGHER TO DISCUSS MEETING AND FOLLOW-UP,

2. WE HANDED OVER AIDE MEMOIRE BASED ON STATE 39930 AND EXPRESSED HOPE GOI COULD PROVIDE COMMENTS BY COB FRIDAY MARCH 1. GALLAGHER SAID IRISH WOULD PROVIDE REACTION THROUGH IRISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON BUT WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER REQUESTED DEADLINE COULD BE MET. GREENE SAID HE BELIEVED OIL SHARING SHOULD BE HANDLED BY OECD OIL COMMITTEE, NOT HLG. IRISH DID NOT, AT THIS OCCASION, RAISE SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEMS WITH TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ITEMS 1-3.

3. REGARDING REPORTED IRISH POSITION AT FEB. 25 MEETING (PARA 3, STATE 37858) THAT ALL WORK SHOULD BE PLACED IN OECD UNDER COUNCIL, GALLAGHER STATED, AND SPECIFICALLY ASKED THAT WASHINGTON BE INFORMED, THAT THIS WAS NOT IRISH POSITION. WHAT IRISH WANTED WAS FOR ALL MEMBER STATES OF OECD BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN FOLLOW-UP WORK IF THEY WANTED, BUT AS INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. OECD WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE FORUM. THIS FORMULA WOULD (A) PERMIT PARTICIPATION BY SUCH OECD MEMBERS AS SWEDEN AND AUSTRALIA, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE; AND (B) DEPRIVE FRENCH OF AN EXCUSE FOR OBSTRUCTING FOLLOW-UP WORK ON GROUNDS THAT ALL OECD MEMBERS HAD NOT BEEN PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE. HE THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS EVEN SLIM CHANCE THAT FRENCH THEMSELVES WOULD PARTICIPATE UNDER THIS FORMULA, AS THEY HAD REAL INTEREST IN TOPIC. BUT GALLAGHER UNDERSCORED THAT IRISH POSITION WAS NOT AIMED AT PLEASING FRENCH AND HAD NO RPT NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THEM.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR FEB. 28, FONMIN FITZGERALD CONFIRMED THAT IRISH POSITION WAS THAT ALL OECD MEMBERS SHOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE, BUT WITHOUT ANY VETO POWER.

5. GREENE NOTED THAT ECG MEMBERS HAD BEEN PRESENTED HEAVY VOLUME OF PAPER AT FEB. 25 MEETING. HE EXPRESSED MILD CONCERN AT SPEED WITH WHICH US WANTED TO MOVE AND NUMBER OF AD HOC GROUPS INVOLVED. WE RESPONDED BY POINTING OUT ECONOMIC SERIOUSNESS OF ENERGY PROBLEM AND FACT THAT WHEN INVITATIONS TO FEB. 14-15 ENERGY CONF-
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ERENCE HAD BEEN ISSUED, A NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN RE DELAY ENVISAGED BETWEEN FIRST CONSUMER CONFERENCE AND ANTICIPATED CONSUMER/PRODUCER MEETING. GREENE AND GALLAGHER INDICATED IRISH WOULD TRY TO BE COOPERATIVE, BUT CLEARLY IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR THEM, GIVEN SMALL IRISH BUREAUCRACY.
MOORE

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